

**REMARKS:**

The applicant hereby confirms election of claims 1 through 10 drawn to a holder for a grease gun. The remaining claims 11 through 20 as filed are hereby cancelled without prejudice solely for the purposes of advancing examination of this application. The applicant expressly reserves the right to continue the subject matter of the cancelled claims in a divisional, continuation or continuation-in-part application.

In amending the claims, 14 original claims have been cancelled and 12 new claims have been added. The total number of claims is now 18, among which three are independent and accordingly no additional claim fees are required.

Regarding the Examiner's formal objections, claim 9 has been amended to note that the concave interior profile is "for" conforming to a shape of a body of the grease gun to confirm that the grease gun is functionally recited. The Examiner's objection in this regard should now be overcome.

Line 1 of the abstract has been amended to remove the term "is provided" which the Examiner objected to. No other amendments have been made to the specification.

The claims have been amended in order to distinguish the invention both from the Examiner's cited references and the references cited in the corresponding PCT application which have recently been reported in an Information Disclosure Citation filed separately on July 6, 2005. In particular independent claim 1 has been amended and new independent claims 21 and 28 have been added in order to distinguish the present invention from the prior art references considered alone and for a combination of references. For the Examiner's convenience, the references cited in the corresponding PCT application which were reported in the recent Information Disclosure Citation include the following.

US Patents

1,647,039 (Fischer)

4,254,926 (Reeberg)

5,080,240 (Williams)

6,698,601 (Nez)

Foreign Patents

JP 2002-21118

JP 07-179153

Claim 1 in particular has been amended to include all of the features of previously submitted dependent claims 2, 3, 4, and 6. More particularly, claim 1 defines a holder including both a clip device and a separate nozzle holder along with a tray supported below both the nozzle holder and the clip device which includes sidewalls forming a receptacle suitable for containing a liquid therein. This arrangement is particularly suited for catching drips which may fall from either the grease gun body held in the clip device or the nozzle held in the nozzle holder. Accordingly all of the mess of a grease gun can be contained instead of dripping on a shop floor for example.

The Examiner's only previous basis for rejecting previously submitted claim 6 with regard to the combination of a nozzle holder and a tray supported therebelow was the cited reference to Via Cava in which a nursing apparatus is described. The cited reference however discloses no such combination of a nozzle holder with a tray therebelow for catching drips. The amended claim 1 includes the additional limitation of claim 3 with regard to the tray including side walls forming a suitable receptacle for retaining liquid therein however Via Cava discloses no such form of tray. The Examiner's only basis for rejecting the previously submitted claim 3 with regard to the tray was US 3,224,644 to Davis. It cannot be considered obvious however to combine the features of Davis and Via Cava as the use of a nozzle as disclosed in Via Cava would necessitate forming a through aperture in the tray of Davis for receiving the nozzle and dispensing tube of Via Cava downwardly

therethrough. Accordingly, the tray resulting from the combination of Davis and Via Cava would no longer be suitable for retaining a liquid therein. There is no motivation to use the tray of Davis for catching drips as its only intended function by the teaching of the cited reference is to use the tray as a supporting shelf with a peripheral rim for locating the object being held thereon. Accordingly it is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 should now be in condition allowance.

New claim 21 has been added to include all of the features of previously submitted Claim 1 but in the form of a combination with a grease gun to more positively state the features of the grease gun holder in relation to the grease gun. Furthermore, Claim 21 emphasizes that the tray is supported on the wall mount such that *both the nozzle and the body of the grease gun are supported* by the nozzle and clip device respectively *above the tray* so that any drips would resulting be caught by the tray.

New Claim 28 includes limitations of Claim 21 noted above in a combination with a grease gun, but with the additional limitation that the clip device comprises parallel flanges of which a portion has a concave profile conforming to the tubular body of the grease gun. In the prior art devices, the entire clip device is curved about the cylindrical object being received so that the object is secured directly against the wall mount. By providing only a portion of the flanges being curved, so that there is a portion which remains parallel, the tubular body of the object being secured can be spaced outwardly from the wall mount. This is particularly advantageous when supporting a grease gun as the tubular body is commonly surrounded with messy grease and the like which is preferably held away from the wall mount and wall upon which it is supported. In addition, space is provided between the clip device supporting the tubular body and the wall mount for receiving

the nozzle of the grease gun therebetween as further emphasized in the claims dependent upon the new Claim 28.

The dependent claims have been amended to be consistent with the independent claims noted above.

Early and favorable reconsideration of this application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted

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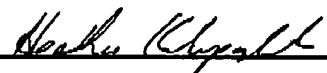
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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (703) 872-9306, on July 19, 2005

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